

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-9, 12-22, 25 and 26 stand rejected, with claims 10, 11, 23 and 24 objected to in the outstanding Official Action. Claims 1, 4, 6, 7, 11, 13, 14, 17, 20, 24 and 26 have been amended, claims 9, 10, 22 and 23 have been cancelled without prejudice and newly written claims 27 and 28 offered for consideration. Therefore, claims 1-8, 11-21 and 24-28 are the only claims remaining in this application.

The Examiner's notification of PTO acceptance of the previously filed formal drawings is very much appreciated. Similarly, the Examiner's acknowledgment of Applicants' claim for priority and receipt of the certified copy of the priority document is appreciated. Finally, the Examiner's consideration of the prior art submitted with Applicants' previously filed Information Disclosure Statement is appreciated.

On page 2, section 1 of the outstanding Official Action, a number of claim objections have been noted.

Regarding the objection to claims 4 and 17 at line 3, the term "ac" as noted in Applicants' specification is the common reference to "alternating current." However, Applicants have amended claims 4 and 17 to replace "ac" with "AC" thereby more clearly indicating the use of the abbreviation to reference "alternating current."

Regarding the objection to claims 6 and 19, claim 6 has been amended to delete the word "of" thereby clearly referencing the previously recited "independent time gating signals" mentioned in claim 1. It is noted that in claim 19, there is already clear antecedent basis for "said independent time gating signals" and therefore no further amendment to claim 19 is believed necessary.

Regarding the objection to claims 7 and 20, the antecedent “the” has been added to each of these claims, thereby referencing the previously recited use of the term “radiation source” recited in independent claims 1 and 14, respectively.

Regarding the objection to claim 14, it has been amended to recite “A method of image intensification” as suggested by the Examiner.

In view of the above amendments, all objections to claims 4, 6, 7, 14, 17 and 20 have been obviated and any further objection thereto is respectfully traversed.

On page 7, section 8 of the Official Action, dependent claims 10, 11, 23 and 24 have been indicated as containing allowable subject matter. Applicants have incorporated the subject matter of claims 10 and 23, along with claims 9 and 22 from which they depended, into independent claims 1 and 14, respectively. Thus, as amended, independent claims 1 and 14 now contain allowable subject matter and are believed allowable over the cited prior art. Claims 9, 10, 22 and 23 have been cancelled without prejudice as being redundant. Accordingly, with independent claims 1 and 14 in condition for allowance, dependent claims 2-8, 11-13, 15-21 and 24-26 dependent on claims 1 or 14 are also believed allowable.

In view of the allowability of amended independent claims 1 and 14, the rejection of claims 1-5, 7, 12, 14-18, 20 and 25 under 35 USC §102 has been obviated.

Similarly, in view of the allowability of independent claims 1 and 14, claims 6, 8, 13, 19, 21 and 26 dependent thereon, respectively, are believed patentable under 35 USC §103 over the cited prior art and the rejection thereunder is believed obviated.

Claims 9 and 22 have been cancelled without prejudice, thereby obviating any further rejection thereof under 35 USC §103 over the cited prior art.

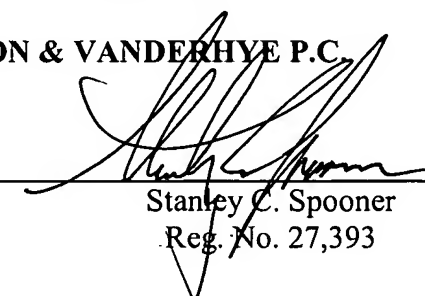
Applicants also include newly written claims 27 and 28 corresponding to claims 10 and 23 in independent form but without including the limitations of claims 9 and 22 from which they originally depended in view of the Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance in section 9 on page 7 of the Official Action. Because the allowable subject matter of these claims is unrelated to the subject matter in claims 9 and 22 from which claims 10 and 23 originally depended, Applicants offer these claims in independent form in newly written claims 27 and 28. Therefore, allowance of the slightly broader subject matter of independent claims 27 and 28 is respectfully requested.

Having responded to all objections and rejections set forth in the outstanding Official Action, it is submitted that amended claims 1-8, 11-21 and 24-26 are in condition for allowance and notice to that effect is respectfully solicited. In the event the Examiner is of the opinion that a brief telephone or personal interview will facilitate allowance of one or more of the above claims, he is respectfully requested to contact Applicants' undersigned representative.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYTE P.C.

By: _____


Stanley C. Spooner
Reg. No. 27,393

SCS:kmm
901 North Glebe Road, 11th Floor
Arlington, VA 22203-1808
Telephone: (703) 816-4000
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100